



Canadian Automobile Distribution Leader Receives Better Performance In A More Consolidated Environment

Company Profile

The client is a Canadian leader in the automotive and transportation industry. Their business includes sale, distribution, merchandising of quality replacement parts and accessories for cars, trucks and heavy vehicles. The company consists of a team of highly skilled, motivated employees thriving in a fast-paced environment contributing to their customers' success by providing exceptional value and service.

Business Situation

A long time IBM customer, the client would like to consolidate all of their distribution centres across the country (which previously had IBM Power7's) into two IBM Power8 servers, which are located at two different locations. At the same time, the client would also like to explore utilization of a SAN based storage solution rather than traditional internal disk. They needed a solution to scale that would also provide enhanced performance.

Description of the Solutions

Working closely with the client's team, Blair proposed the following solutions:

- Two IBM Power8 model 814's with 4 cores of active IBM I to accommodate 13 LPAR's and with a memory sized at 256 GB
- Two V7000's with 14 SSD drives with RAID 10 yielding 10TB useable capacity.

Outcome

Consolidating the client's standalone DC servers in a virtualized environment with shared storage allowed the client to optimize utilization of their infrastructure and maximize their investment. The Blair team sized the required performance for this consolidated environment based on what the client's workloads required for the next few years thereby minimizing idle resources. Now the client has the ability to provision server and storage resources effortlessly as needed. The capabilities of IBM's Power8 processors and Storwize V7000 Gen2 flash storage provides a platform that meet the required performance, scalability and reliability at an affordable price.

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